ronment and Forests, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. According to these rules (rule-11), the import of hazardous wastes from any country to India is banned for dumping and disposal. However, import of such wastes is allowed for processing or reuse as raw materials after examining each case on merit. The imports of hazardous wastes are also examined as per the obligations under the Basel Convention on Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. In April 1995, the Export-Import Policy was amended and hazardous wastes were placed in the restricted list. As per the policy, imports are permitted only against a licence issued by the Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT). In compliance with the orders passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, no imports of hazardous wastes are being permitted.

निजी क्षेत्र के संस्थानों को वन भूमि पट्टे पर दिया जाना

2145. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत वर्षों के दौरान कतिपय राज्य सरकारों ने निजी संस्थानों को वन भूमि पट्टे पर दी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान किन-किन राज्य सरकारों ने निजी संस्थानों को कितनी-कितनी वन भूमि पट्टे पर दी है और इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि निजी क्षेत्र के संस्थानों को इस प्रकार वन भूमि पट्टे पर देने से न केवल राष्ट्रीय वन नीति का घोर उल्लंघन हुआ है बल्कि इससे (वन संरक्षण) अधिनियम, की भी अवमानना हुई है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री (प्रो॰ सैफुद्दीन सोज़): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा सदन के पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Menace of Big Cats in Pauri Garhwal

2146. **SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of persons have been killed by 'Big Cats' in Rikhnikhal and Beronkhal areas of District Pauri Garhwal, U.P., as reported in the 'Indian Express' dated the 15th February, 1997;

(b) if so, the details of the persons killed and injured by the said Cats since January, 1996;

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to them, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to apprehend those Cats?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh have reported the following number of persons killed/injured by leopard in the said area:—

	Killed	Injured
Rikhnikhal	02	01
Beronkhal	04	Nil
Total:	06	01

(c) Action is being taken by the State Government for the payment of compensation/ex-gratia payment in these cases.

(d) The leopard was declared maneater and trapped by the Wildlife staff.

Population of Gir Lions

2147. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times Government have evaluated the total number of lions in Gir forests of Gujarat;

(b) the difference in figures between 31st December, 1986 and 31st December, 1996, according to Government evaluation;

(c) the total number of cases registered for illegal hunting of lions, so far, and action taken on the registered complaints; and

(d) the measures taken for breeding and increasing the number of lions in Gir forests?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Although the population of lions in the Gir forests of Gujarat has been estimated since 1936, six censuses have been conducted after declaration of the Gir Sanctuary during the years 1968, 1974, 1979, 1985, 1990 and 1995.

(b) No census was conducted in December, 1986 and December, 1996. However, the population of lions was estimated at 239 in May 1985 and 304 in May 1995, showing an increase of 65 lions during this period.

(c) According to the State Govt. of Gujarat 30 cases of lion poaching have been registered since 1981-82, all of which were investigated and either departmental or court proceedings were carried out.

(d) An area of 1412.12 sq. km. of the Gir forest which is the habitat of lions, has been constituted into a protected area, comprising 1153.41 sq. km. notified as a sanctuary and 258.41 sq. km. notified as a national park under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The Asiatic Lion is fully protected against hunting and commercial exploitation. Habitat protection and management activities are also undertaken such as habitat improvement, water conservation, wildlife health monitoring etc. Under in situ condition, breeding takes place if favourable conditions are available to the lions. No artificial breeding programme is necessary. As a result of these measures, the population of Asiatic Lions has gradually increased from 177 in 1968 to 304 in 1995.

Inclusion of Udaipur Lake under NLCP

2148. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have selected Udaipur Lake under the National Lake Conservation Plan; if so, the main objectives of this project;

(b) whether any feasibility response has been prepared/discussed between the State Experts Committee and officials of the Ministry of Environment, so far; and

(c) if so, the present stage of this project and the likely cost involved therein and agreed to be shared by Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir. The objectives of the proposed national lake Conservation Plan are:

(i) Prevention of pollution from point and non-point sources.

(ii) Catchment area treatment.

(iii) R&D studies on floral and faunal activities and related ecological aspects.

(iv) Other activities depending on the lake specific conditions such as integrated development approach including interface with human populations.

(b) and (c) Discussions on pre-feasibility reports have been held between the State Government and officials of Ministry of Environment and Forests. The total cost of the project proposal was about Rs. 111 crores to be shared between the Central and the State Government on 50:50 basis.

"महानगरों में वायु-प्रदूषक तत्वों की अनुज्ञेय सीमा"

2149. **श्री पराग चालिहा:** क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) महानगरों में विभिन्न वायु-प्रदूषक तत्वों तथा कार्बन मोनोक्साइड इत्यादि की अधिकतम अनुज्ञेय सीमा क्या है;